

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 13 and ending on page 2, line 3, as follows:

A fuel cell system (hereinafter referred to as a fuel cell), which has a high conversion efficiency in electrochemically converting the chemical energy owned by the liquid fuel into electrical energy, attracts attention as effective energy supplying means (i.e., power generation method and device) from the viewpoint of energy saving and environmental protection. Furthermore, such a fuel cell system, which can continuously generate an electric power while the liquid fuel continues ~~being to be~~ supplied, attracts attention as a power source for use in portable information equipment such as laptop personal computers of which the power consumption keeps increasing in accordance with ~~remarkable~~-functional advancement and as a transportable power source. Moreover, the fuel cell system can operate to drive equipment of larger power consumption and for a longer time than the conventional rechargeable battery.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 4 and ending at line 8, as follows:

Various problems must be solved in order to apply a power supply system of high energy efficiency, such as the fuel cell, to portable or transportable power sources as a substitute for the rechargeable battery by reducing the size and the weight of the system in the future.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 9 and ending at line 19, as follows:

Particularly, in a direct type methanol fuel cell (DMFC (Direct Methanol Fuel Cell)) that uses methanol as the liquid fuel and generates an electric power by taking protons out of the methanol, it is considered that the methanol, which is a deleterious substance, exerts large influences on not only the user but also the surrounding environment. Therefore, it is necessary to suppress the emission of the liquid fuel supplied to the fuel cell, intermediate products of chemical reactions and emission matters (products) from the fuel cell into the atmosphere as ~~far~~much as possible.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 20 and ending at line 25, as follows:

It is well known that methanol, which is inflammable and toxic, ~~needs~~requires sufficient ~~care~~care in the storage and handling thereof. If the methanol leaked from the fuel cell adheres to the human body or is taken into the body by mistake, it is possible that ~~a bad influence might be exerted on the human body~~ will be harmed.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 1 and ending at line 10, as follows:

Moreover, the liquid fuel is supplied by providing the fuel cell with a cartridge typed container that holds the liquid fuel, and the continuous supply of the liquid fuel is achieved by replacing the cartridge. However, if the cartridge that is supplying the liquid fuel in the fuel cell suddenly falls off the equipment, ~~it~~there is concerned ~~concern~~ that a large amount of methanol might leak from a connection port, and the possibility of ~~exerting a bad influence on~~ harming the human body is further increased ~~in such a case~~.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 11 and ending at line 21, as follows:

Accordingly, in the fuel cell described in Japanese unexamined patent publication No.2003-45468, a fuel storage section for storing a liquid fuel is provided in a fuel cartridge, and an absorber for absorbing the fuel is placed in a space between the fuel cartridge and the fuel storage section. If the fuel leaks from the fuel storage section when the used fuel cartridge is removed from the electronic equipment, the fuel is absorbed by the absorber placed in the space between the fuel storage section and the cartridge, preventing ~~the~~ leakage of the fuel to the outside of the cartridge.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 22 and ending on page 4, line 7, as follows:

Moreover, in the fuel cell described in Japanese unexamined patent publication No.2003-92128, the fuel cartridge is internally divided into two chambers by a partition, ~~making~~ the divided first chamber ~~serve~~serving as a chamber for storing the fuel and ~~making~~ the second chamber ~~serve~~serving as a chamber for storing emission matters from the fuel cell. The internal volumes of the two chambers are changed according to the fuel consumption by freely deforming the partition, and the emission matters are prevented from being emitted to the atmosphere by being stored.

Please cancel the heading “Disclose of Invention,” in line 9 on page 4 of the specification.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 and ending at line 24, as follows:

However, the fuel cells described in JP 2003-45468 and JP 2003-92128 ~~are on the assumption~~assume that the cartridge that holds the liquid fuel is not damaged or the liquid fuel does not leak from the connection port of the cartridge. There is no consideration for safety in the case where the cartridge is damaged by an impact₁ or the like₁ and the internal liquid fuel and the emission matters leak to the outside of the cartridge₁ at the worst₁ by informing the user of the leakage or other measures. Considering the popularization of portable information equipment employing the fuel cell in the future, various use methods are supposed. Therefore, in consideration of the leakage of the liquid fuel, a means for confirming the leakage by the user easily in the early stage is ~~presumably~~ needed.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 25 and ending on page 5, line 14, as follows:

Particularly, in the case of DMFC, methanol (or a methanol aqueous solution) used for the fuel is colorless, and the liquid fuel is inconspicuous even when it leaks from the cartridge that holds the liquid fuel. Therefore, it is possible that the discovery of the leakage might be late. Moreover, when the fuel cell is employed as a power source for portable information equipment,

the leakage of the liquid fuel to the outside might cause troubles of a short circuit in the main body or the peripherals of the equipment equipped with the fuel cell and the deterioration, contact failure and so on of electrical components. Furthermore, when methanol of a high concentration ~~becomes~~is used as a fuel as a consequence of an improvement in the fuel cell performance, the detection of fuel leakage becomes important ~~also~~ in terms of safety.

Please insert the heading --Summary of the Invention--, in line 15 on page 5 of the specification.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 19 and ending on page 6, line 1, as follows:

An object of the present invention is to solve the problems and provide a liquid fuel container capable of letting the user swiftly and easily recognize the leakage of the liquid fuel from a liquid fuel holding section that holds the liquid fuel used for power generation in a fuel cell system, a fuel cell system capable of being equipped with the container and a portable information terminal device.

Please replace the heading “Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention,” with --Detailed Description of the Invention-- in line 4 on page 16 of the specification.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 15 and ending on page 18, line 7, as follows:

As shown in Figs. 2A and 2B, the cartridge 20 is a container for holding a liquid fuel 23 in its sealed internal space and includes a liquid fuel holding section 22 that is the container main body having the internal space and a casing 21 that houses the ~~whole~~entire body of the liquid fuel holding section 22. Further, a space is provided between the inner side of the casing 21 and the outer peripheral surface of the liquid fuel holding section 22 along roughly the entire outer peripheral surface, and a powdered cobalt chloride 25 of one example of the coloring agent (liquid fuel coloring substance) that changes the color of the contact portion by coming in

contact with the liquid fuel is held in the space. The space serves as a coloring agent holding section 24. In the cartridge 20, the cobalt chloride 25 is not placed at a connection port 30 that is the portion connected to the inlet 11 of the power generation module 1, and the cobalt chloride 25 is provided in the neighborhood of the connection port 30.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 17 and ending on page 25, line 2, as follows:

Therefore, when the liquid fuel 23 leaks from the liquid fuel holding section 22, the leaked liquid fuel 23 and the cobalt chloride aqueous solution ~~are changed~~change in color into a red color to allow the color change to be visually recognized. Furthermore, when the cobalt chloride aqueous solution itself leaks from the casing 21 of the cartridge 20, the leakage can be detected swiftly and easily due to the fact that the cobalt chloride aqueous solution has a pink color. Moreover, by virtue of the change in color as described above, the leaked liquid can easily be identified.

Please cancel the heading “Industrial Applicability,” in line 5 on page 38 of the specification.